

# DNA Immigration Testing



Technical Bulletin 40-006.0 - DTC

*Setting the Standard for Quality DNA Identification*



United States citizens can petition for their spouses, parents, children or siblings to immigrate to the United States and permanent residents can do so for their spouses and unmarried children.

In most cases there are sufficient written records to validate relationships and satisfy the requirements of the U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services Department. If more evidence of a biological relationship is needed, a voluntary DNA test may be advised. Tests are typically requested for immigration and passports and sometimes for other reasons. It is important to ask the reason for testing, as that could dictate which U.S. agency is responsible for sample collection and receiving reports.

### Test Fees

Fees must be paid by the test participants. The fees are not paid by the USCIS or Embassy. There are two fees associated with Immigration DNA testing, the DNA test fee and an immigration handling fee.

### DNA Collection of Petitioner

The person residing in the United States, the petitioner will be collected at a qualified laboratory approved location. They will need a government issued photo identification and a copy of a letter from the USCIS/ Embassy asking for a DNA test. If this letter is not available we need any document they have received stating their government issued case number. This paperwork will allow the USCIS/ Embassy to match the laboratory results to the correct government case. This letter, a photo taken at the time of collection and a photocopy of the government issued photo ID must accompany the samples to Chromosomal Laboratories.

### DNA Collection of Beneficiary

The person outside of the United States, the beneficiary, will be collected at the U.S. Embassy in that country or at a site approved by the U.S. Embassy. A sample collection kit must be sent from Chromosomal Laboratories, Inc to the foreign location. This shipping cost is included in the immigration handling fee. Chromosomal Laboratories, Inc will supply you with the tracking number, or the appointment information. Some countries contact the persons in their country with an appointment time, while other countries contact



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the petitioner with an appointment time. On the other hand, some countries contact the laboratory with an appointment time. The fees to be paid for the collection are **NOT** included in the immigration fee. The cost is bore by the person(s) in the foreign country. The beneficiary needs to take government issued identification with them to the collection appointment.

## Shipping Samples from a Foreign Country

After collection, the samples are sent directly to Chromosomal Laboratories, Inc by the U.S. Embassy or their designee. The fees for this shipment are included in the immigration handling fee. The laboratory will provide you with a tracking number for this shipment; however we cannot guarantee that the shipper will use the air bill provided. Please note, a small number of countries require the person(s) in the foreign country to bear these shipping costs. In this instance, the immigration handling fee is prorated accordingly. The laboratory will notify you if you are dealing with one of these countries.

## DNA Testing

Once all of the samples and necessary documentation have been received, a sample receipt email will be sent to inform you that the samples have arrived from the foreign country. Test results will be available in 2-3 business days, depending on the testing scenario. Initially you will receive the test results by fax or email.

## Final Report

The U.S. Government requires that the final results be received directly from the testing laboratory. Chromosomal Laboratories, Inc will ship two notarized copies of the test results and the original photographs and documents to the USCIS office or U.S. Embassy. It is important that the test participants ensure the laboratory knows where to ship the results. Chromosomal Laboratories, Inc will provide a FedEx tracking number for this shipment. The fees for this shipment will be included in the immigration handling fee.

## Follow Up

The USCIS typically requires one to two weeks to process once they have received the result package from Chromosomal Laboratories, Inc.

